Archie COMICS
SEGA®
WAVES OF CHANGE
PART ONE
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
ISSUE 260
LOOK OUT, SONIC!
ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

PREVIOUSLY...

THE GAME PLAN

The Shattered World Crisis is upon us! The planet's crust has cracked apart, and now whole continents float in the sky. What's worse, a strange dark power is seeping out of the planet's core and over the divided globe.

Sonic and his heroic friends, the Freedom Fighters, race to fix things. Thankfully, they have a plan: by finding the Seven Chaos Emeralds and delivering them to the Seven Gaia Temples, they should be able to restore the world!

But Sonic and friends aren't the only ones searching for the Emeralds and Temples.

Wanting nothing more than to bend the planet to his will, Dr. Eggman has obtained the Gaia Manuscripts containing the information he needs to turn the tides of war in his favor.

The race is on for
the fate of the world...

WHO'S WHO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
FASTEST THING ALIVE

AMY ROSE
HAMMER-HEFTING HEROINE

ROTOR THE WALRUS
WARRIOR MECHANIC

???

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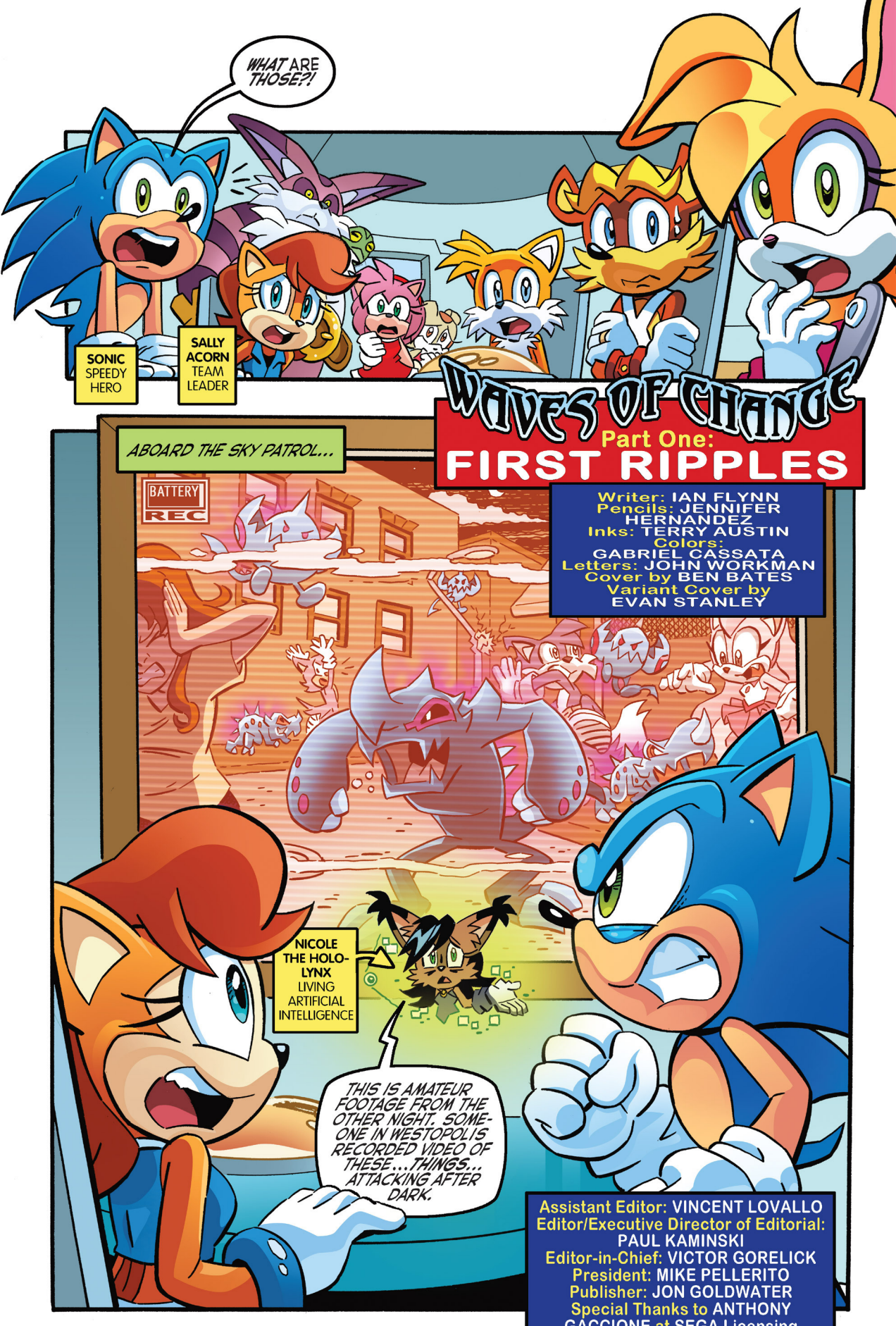
WHAT ARE THOSE?!
SONIC SPEEDY HERO
SALLY ACORN TEAM LEADER
WAVES OF CHANGE
Part One:
FIRST RIPPLES
ABOARD THE SKY PATROL...
BATTERY
REC
Writer: IAN FLYNN
Pencils: JENNIFER HERNANDEZ
Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: GABRIEL CASSATA
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN
Cover by BEN BATES
Variant Cover by EVAN STANLEY
NICOLE THE HOLO-LYNX LIVING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
THIS IS AMATEUR FOOTAGE FROM THE OTHER NIGHT. SOMEONE IN WESTOPOLIS RECORDED VIDEO OF THESE...THINGS... ATTACKING AFTER DARK.
Assistant Editor: VINCENT LOVALLO
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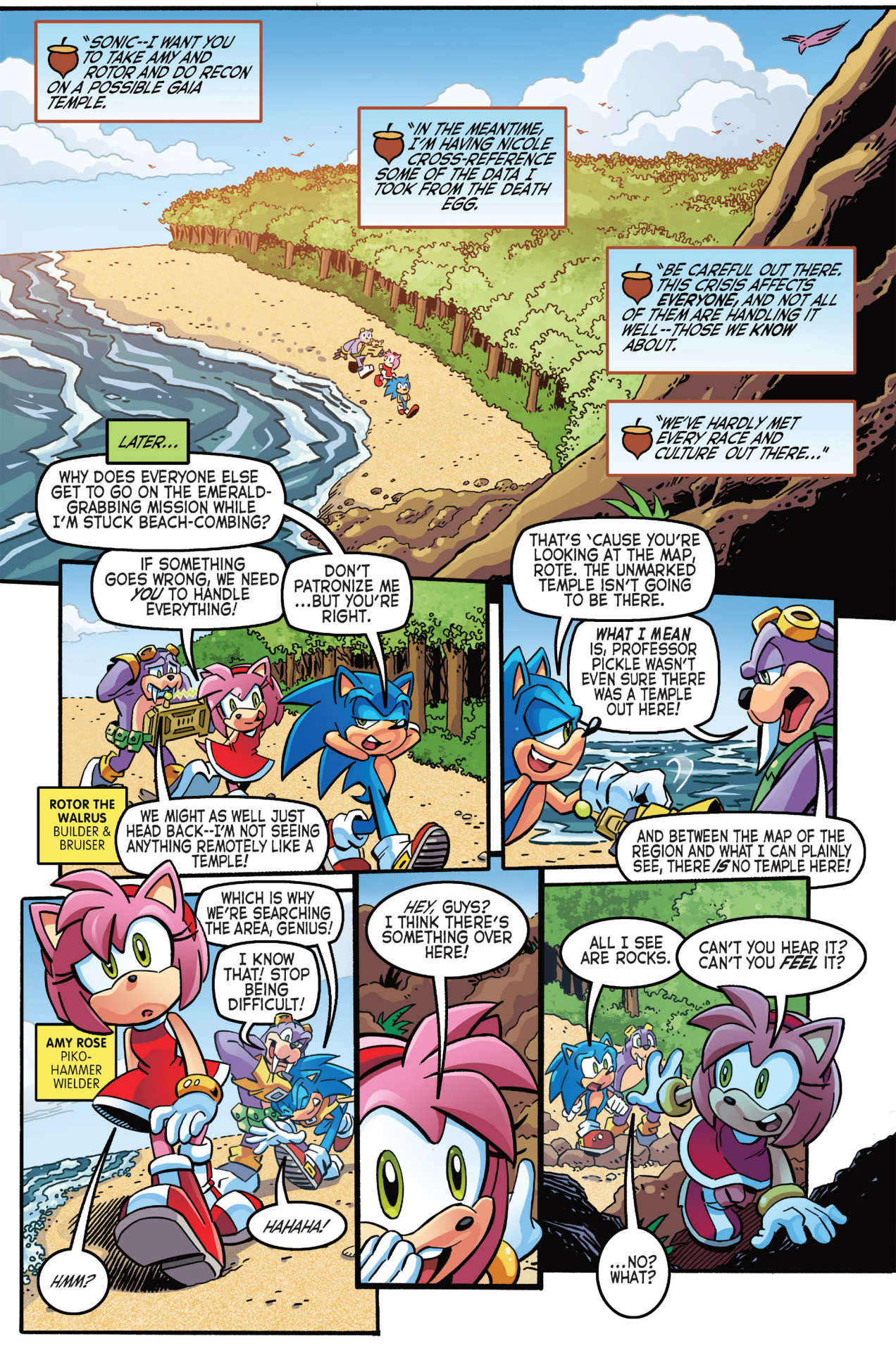
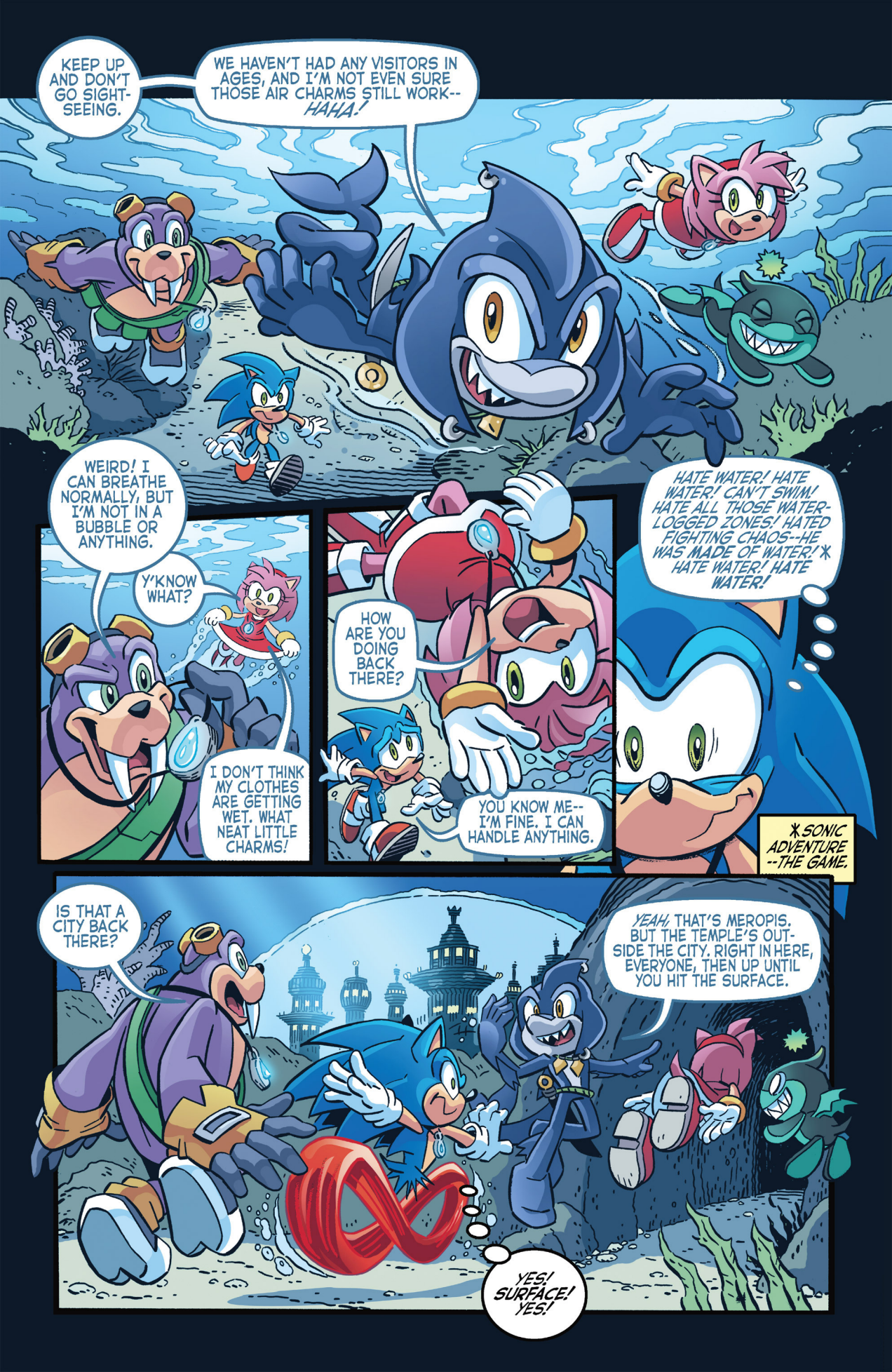
Editor-in-Chief: VICTOR GORELICK
President: MIKE PELLERITO
Publisher: JON GOLDWATER
Special Thanks to ANTHONY GACCIONE at SEGA Licensing

ARE WE TOO LATE TO HELP?
G.U.N. AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVED IN TIME, AND FROM WHAT I'VE GATHERED, NO ONE WAS SERIOUSLY HURT.
I GUESS THAT'S THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR.
I BET THIS IS ALL LINKED TO THE PROFESSORS' RESEARCH.
MILES "TAILS" PROWER YOUNG GENIUS
PROFESSOR PICKLE SAID THIS WAS IN THE GAIA MANUSCRIPTS' END-OF-THE-WORLD SCENARIO, AND THOSE MONSTERS COULD BE TIED INTO THE DARK ENERGY UNCLE CHUCK WAS STUDYING!*
HA! C-CAN WE NOT BE USING ZE TERM "END OF THE WORLD"? I AM VERY MUCH PREFERRING ZE IDEA ZAT WE CAN STILL FIX ZIS.
* STH #258-259.
UNCLE CHUCK SAID THAT GOOP WAS CORRUPTIVE--MUTAGENIC. WHAT IF THOSE MONSTERS WERE JUST SOME POOR CRITTERS CHANGED BY THE DARK ENERGY?**
BUNNIE "RABBOT" D'COOLETTE CYBORG
ANTOINE D'COOLETTE BRAVE(ISH) SWORDSMAN
** STH #254.
GUYS--YOU'RE OVERTHINKING IT.
THANKS TO THE PROFS, WE KNOW WHAT TO DO: FIND THE CHAOS EMERALDS, PLUG 'EM INTO THE GAIA TEMPLES, SAVE THE WORLD. SIMPLE.
RIGHT--LIKE FINDING ALL THE EMERALDS ALONE ISN'T HARD.
EH, I DO IT ALL THE TIME. BUT THEN, NOBODY IS AS SKILLED AS ME, ARE THEY?
WATCH IT--I DON'T THINK THE SKY PATROL CAN SUPPORT THE WEIGHT OF YOUR EGO.
BUT SONIC IS RIGHT ABOUT WHAT WE NEED TO DO, AND WE SHOULD DO IT QUICKLY. WE'LL START BY BREAKING INTO SEARCH AND RECOVERY TEAMS.

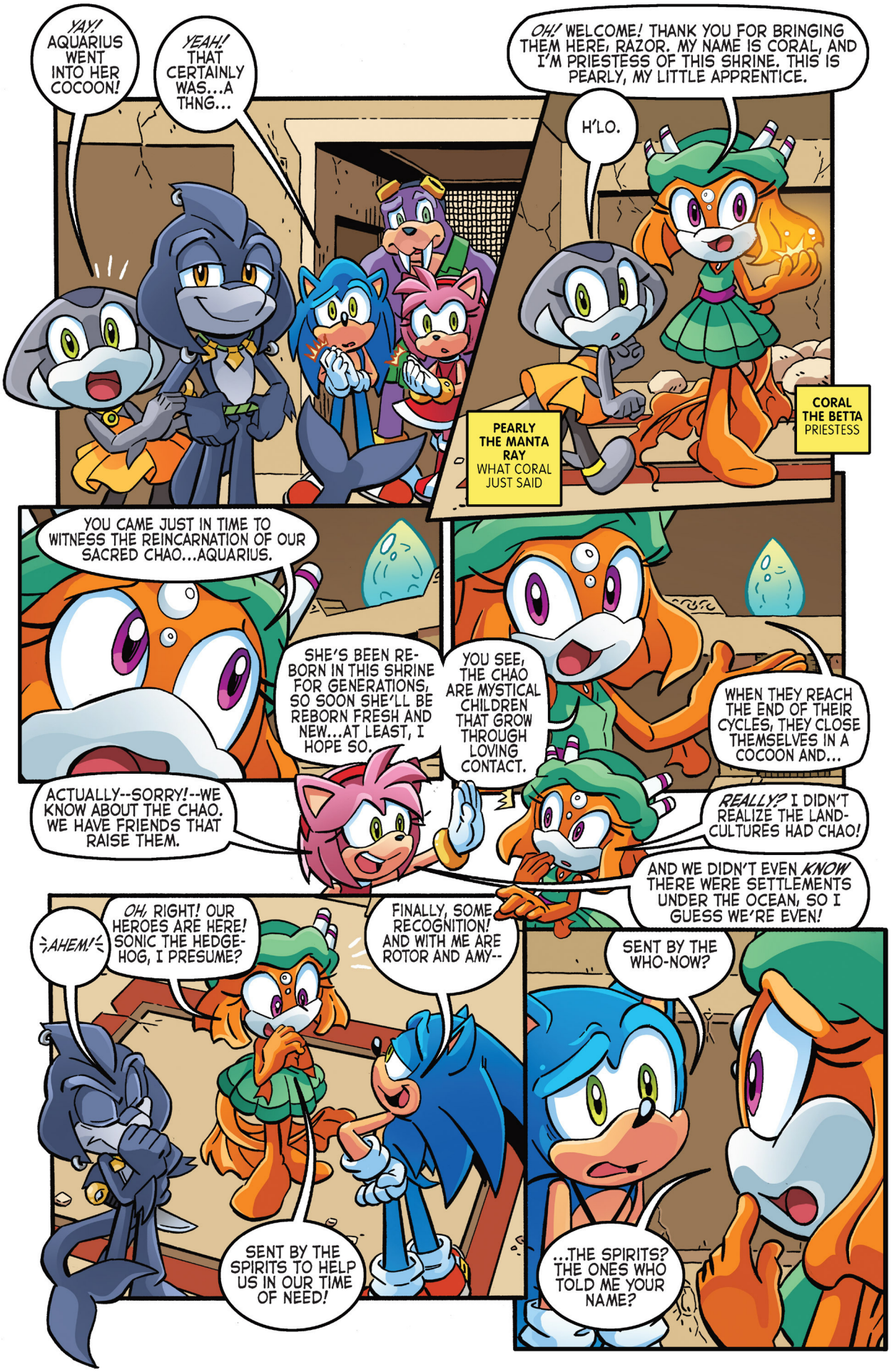

"SONIC--I WANT YOU TO TAKE AMY AND ROTOR AND DO RECON ON A POSSIBLE GAIA TEMPLE.
"IN THE MEANTIME, I'M HAVING NICOLE CROSS-REFERENCE SOME OF THE DATA I TOOK FROM THE DEATH EGG.
"BE CAREFUL OUT THERE. THIS CRISIS AFFECTS EVERYONE, AND NOT ALL OF THEM ARE HANDLING IT WELL--THOSE WE KNOW ABOUT.
"WE'VE HARDLY MET EVERY RACE AND CULTURE OUT THERE..."
LATER...
WHY DOES EVERYONE ELSE GET TO GO ON THE EMERALD-GRABBING MISSION WHILE I'M STUCK BEACH-COMBING?
IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG, WE NEED YOU TO HANDLE EVERYTHING!
DON'T PATRONIZE ME ...BUT YOU'RE RIGHT.
ROTOR THE WALRUS BUILDER & BRUISER
WE MIGHT AS WELL JUST HEAD BACK--I'M NOT SEEING ANYTHING REMOTELY LIKE A TEMPLE!
THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE MAP, ROTE. THE UNMARKED TEMPLE ISN'T GOING TO BE THERE.
WHAT I MEAN IS, PROFESSOR PICKLE WASN'T EVEN SURE THERE WAS A TEMPLE OUT HERE!
AND BETWEEN THE MAP OF THE REGION AND WHAT I CAN PLAINLY SEE, THERE IS NO TEMPLE HERE!
AMY ROSE PIKO-HAMMER WIELDER
WHICH IS WHY WE'RE SEARCHING THE AREA, GENIUS!
I KNOW THAT! STOP BEING DIFFICULT!
HMM?
HAHAHA!
HEY, GUYS? I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING OVER HERE!
ALL I SEE ARE ROCKS.
CAN'T YOU HEAR IT? CAN'T YOU FEEL IT?
...NO? WHAT?

THE MUSIC!
HELLO? IS ANYONE THERE? THAT'S A LOVELY TUNE! MAYBE YOU CAN HELP US?
OH, GOSH ...IS THAT THEM?
UM, HELLO? ARE YOU SONIC THE HEDGEHOG?
WHAT THE ...NO! BUT HE'S WITH ME!
THANK GOODNESS! I CAN'T... UM, PLEASE WAIT RIGHT THERE! I'LL SEND SOMEONE TO GET YOU!
OKAYYY ...?
SOON...
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOREVER!
MAYBE FIFTEEN MINUTES! KEEP YOUR SHOES ON!
AHEM!
IT'S NOT A TOTAL LOSS. I BEAT MY TOP SCORE IN "ANGRY CHAO"!
SO...I GUESS YOU'RE THE SURFACE-WALKERS I'M SUPPOSED TO FETCH?
BAH!
RAZOR THE SHARK OCEAN WARRIOR
CRUSHER THE CHAO "ADORABLE" CHAO COMPANION

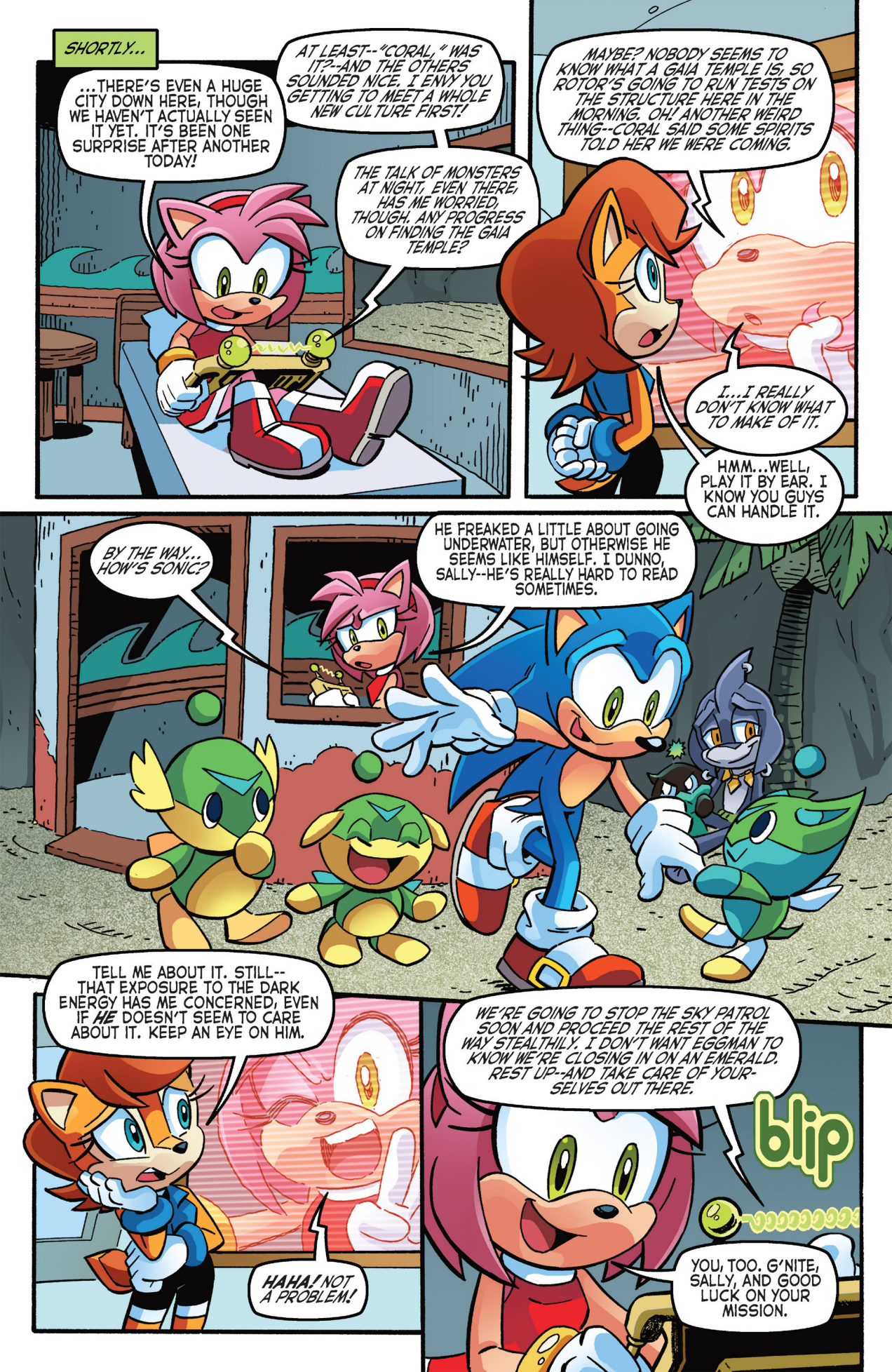
DUDE, I DON'T EVEN KNOW.
DID YOU JUST COME OUT OF THE OCEAN? DID THAT CREEPY VOICE SEND YOU OR SOMETHING?
UH...I'M RAZOR, PROTECTOR OF THE EUSEBES--
--SHRINE!
CRUSHER-- NO! BAD!
NO BITEY.
SNAP!
ANYWAY--I WAS SENT TO PICK YOU UP. I DON'T SUPPOSE ANY OF YOU ARE SOME KIND OF "GREAT HERO"? THE PRIESTESS SEEMS TO THINK AT LEAST ONE OF YOU IS IMPORTANT.
YEAH-- THAT'D BE ME.
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG? BEAT THE EGGMAN EMPIRE ABOUT A MILLION TIMES?
EH--ALL RIGHT. CORAL'S EXPECTING YOU, AND SHE'S THE PRIESTESS, SO THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
I GUESS IF SOME PRIESTESS IS BRAGGING ABOUT US, WE'VE GOT TO LIVE UP TO HER EXPECTATIONS, RIGHT?
WELL...
...IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE ANY OTHER LEADS JUST YET. WOULDN'T HURT TO ASK THE LOCALS.
ASK ABOUT WHAT?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING CALLED A GAIA TEMPLE.
UH...I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...
...BUT THERE IS A TEMPLE IN THE SHRINE. REGARDLESS, TAKE THESE AIR CHARMS AND FOLLOW ME. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE OUT HERE AFTER NIGHTFALL.

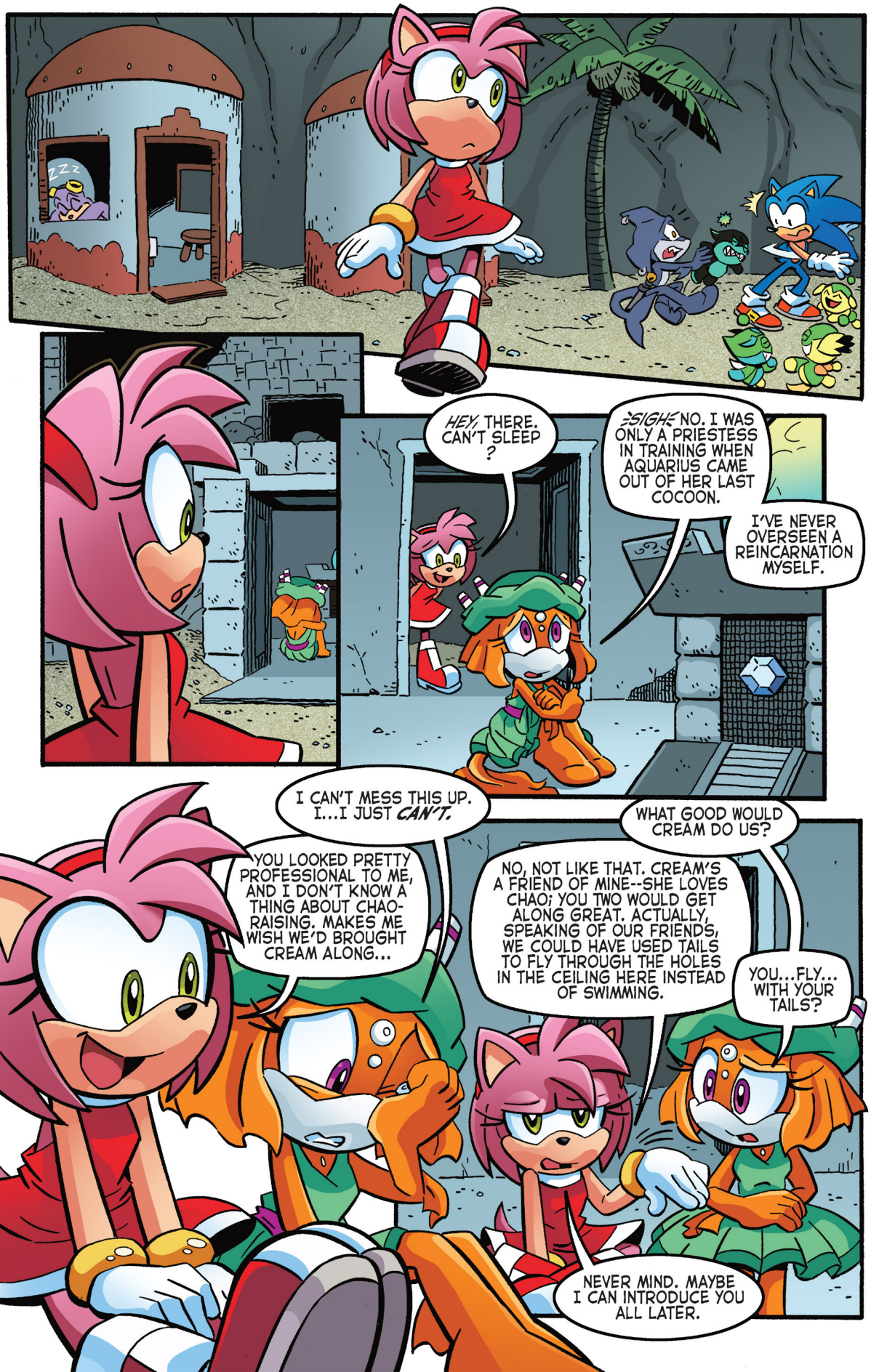

KEEP UP AND DON'T GO SIGHT-SEEING.
WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY VISITORS IN AGES, AND I'M NOT EVEN SURE THOSE AIR CHARMS STILL WORK-- HAHA!
WEIRD! I CAN BREATHE NORMALLY, BUT I'M NOT IN A BUBBLE OR ANYTHING.
Y'KNOW WHAT?
I DON'T THINK MY CLOTHES ARE GETTING WET. WHAT NEAT LITTLE CHARMS!
HOW ARE YOU DOING BACK THERE?
YOU KNOW ME-- I'M FINE. I CAN HANDLE ANYTHING.
HATE WATER! HATE WATER! CAN'T SWIM! HATE ALL THOSE WATER-LOGGED ZONES! HATED FIGHTING CHAOS--HE WAS MADE OF WATER! * HATE WATER! HATE WATER!
* SONIC ADVENTURE --THE GAME.
IS THAT A CITY BACK THERE?
YEAH, THAT'S MEROPIS. BUT THE TEMPLE'S OUTSIDE THE CITY. RIGHT IN HERE, EVERYONE, THEN UP UNTIL YOU HIT THE SURFACE.
YES! SURFACE! YES!

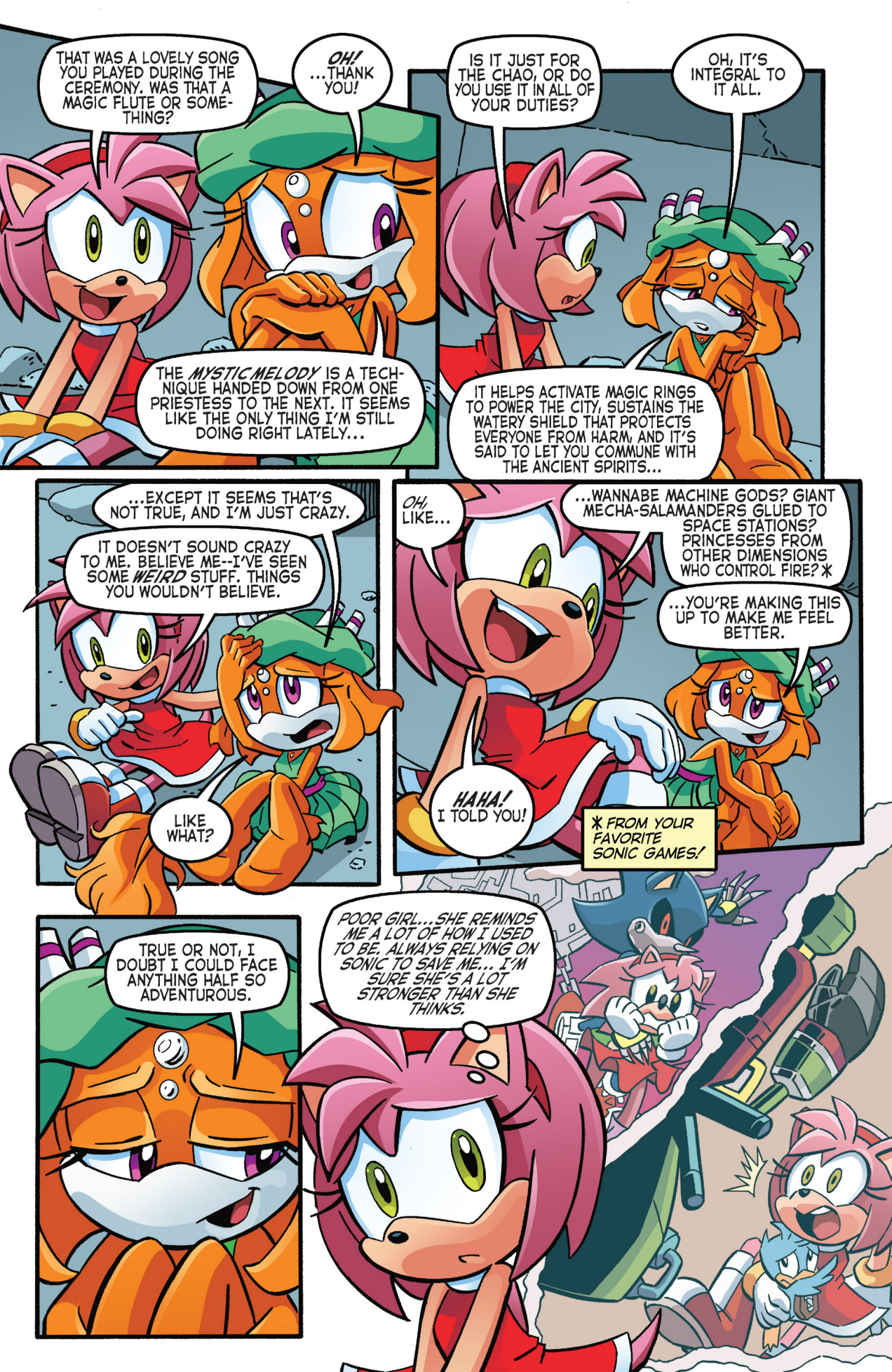
SPLASH!
LAND! GLORIOUS LAND! I DON'T EVEN CARE IF I GET BAD TRACTION ON SAND--IT'S LAND!
SHHH! SHHHHHH! YOU'LL INTERRUPT HER AGAIN!
YOU ALMOST MISSED IT, RAZOR! C'MON!
HEH HEH --TAKE IT EASY, SQUIRT. WE'RE COMIN'!
SCHWOOP

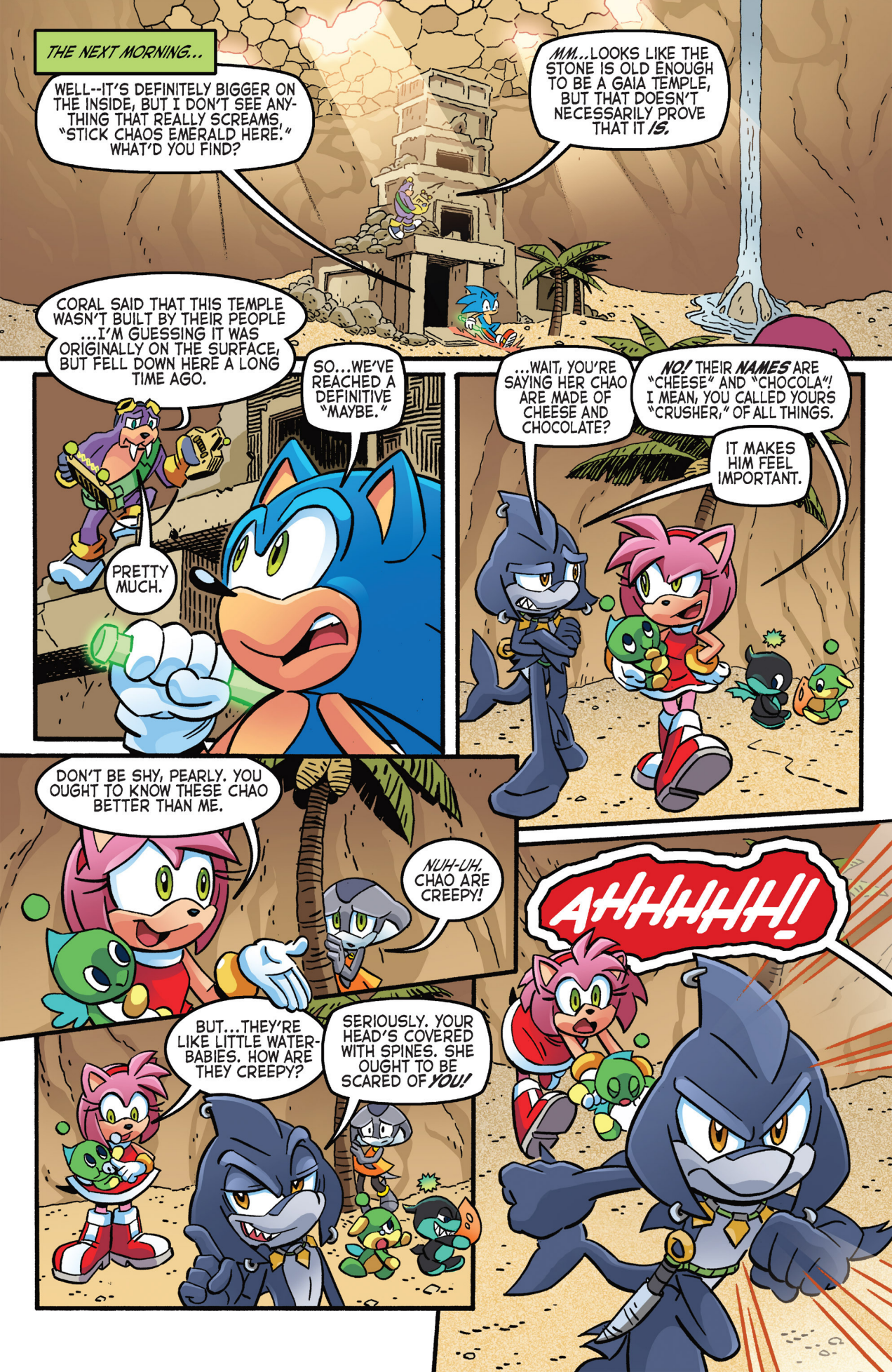

YAY! AQUARIUS WENT INTO HER COCOON!
YEAH! THAT CERTAINLY WAS...A THNG...
OH! WELCOME! THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THEM HERE, RAZOR. MY NAME IS CORAL, AND I'M PRIESTESS OF THIS SHRINE. THIS IS PEARLY, MY LITTLE APPRENTICE.
H'LO.
PEARLY THE MANTA RAY WHAT CORAL JUST SAID
CORAL THE BETTA PRIESTESS
YOU CAME JUST IN TIME TO WITNESS THE REINCARNATION OF OUR SACRED CHAO...AQUARIUS.
SHE'S BEEN RE-BORN IN THIS SHRINE FOR GENERATIONS, SO SOON SHE'LL BE REBORN FRESH AND NEW...AT LEAST, I HOPE SO.
YOU SEE, THE CHAO ARE MYSTICAL CHILDREN THAT GROW THROUGH LOVING CONTACT.
WHEN THEY REACH THE END OF THEIR CYCLES, THEY CLOSE THEMSELVES IN A COCOON AND...
ACTUALLY--SORRY!--WE KNOW ABOUT THE CHAO. WE HAVE FRIENDS THAT RAISE THEM.
REALLY? I DIDN'T REALIZE THE LAND-CULTURES HAD CHAO!
AND WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THERE WERE SETTLEMENTS UNDER THE OCEAN, SO I GUESS WE'RE EVEN!
AHEM!
OH, RIGHT! OUR HEROES ARE HERE! SONIC THE HEDGE-HOG, I PRESUME?
FINALLY, SOME RECOGNITION! AND WITH ME ARE ROTOR AND AMY--
SENT BY THE SPIRITS TO HELP US IN OUR TIME OF NEED!
SENT BY THE WHO-NOW?
...THE SPIRITS? THE ONES WHO TOLD ME YOUR NAME?

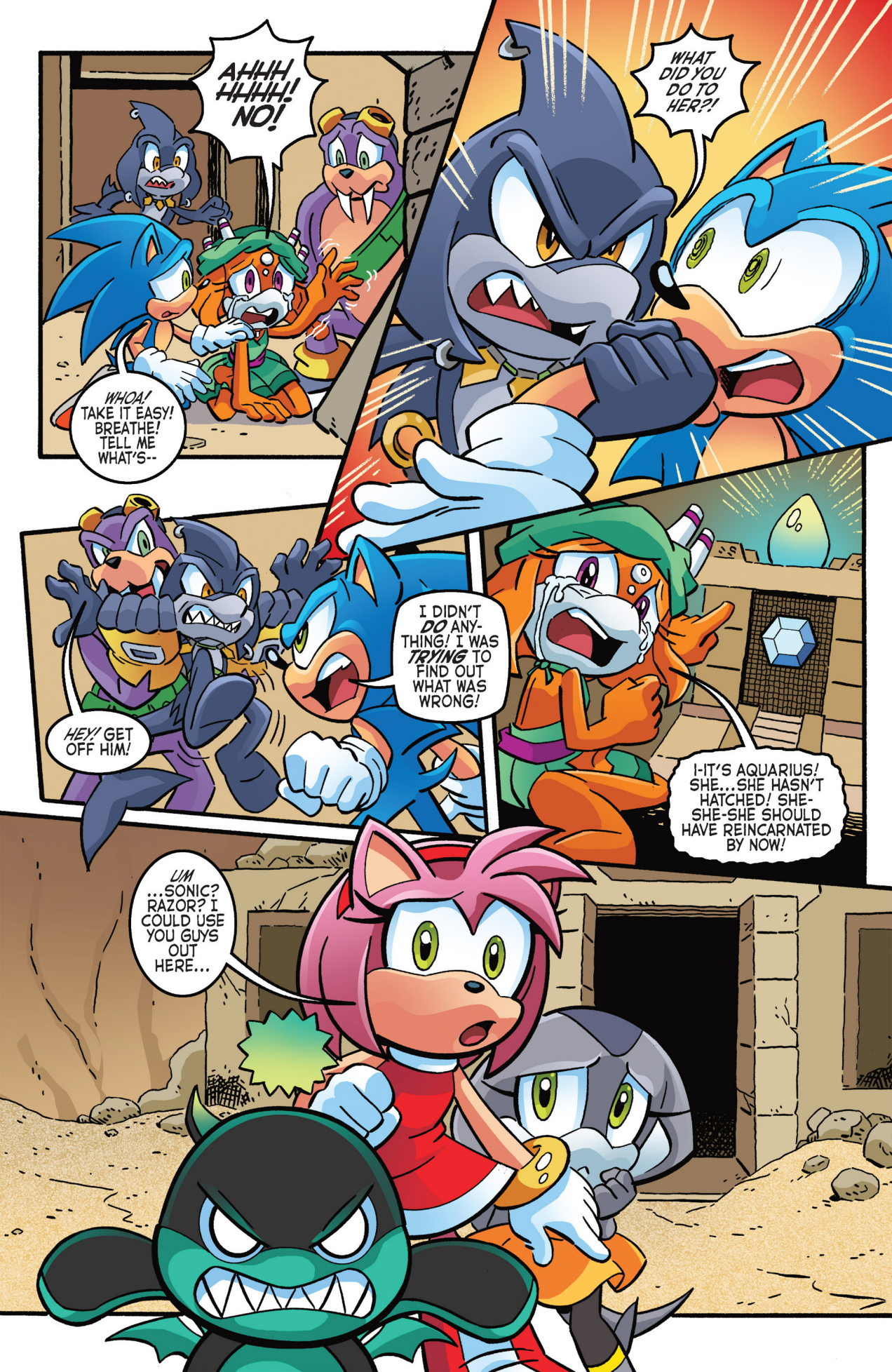
SORRY, WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT SPIRITS.
BUT CAN YOU CONFIRM IF THIS PLACE IS--?
OOF!
SPIRITS OR NOT, WE'LL BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU. WE ARE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, AFTER ALL.
YEAH, THAT, TOO...
I-I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND ...THE SPIRIT SAID...AND WITH EVERYTHING ELSE GOING WRONG, I CAN'T...
HEY--IT'S LATE. LET'S ALL JUST CAMP OUT FOR THE NIGHT AND FIGURE THINGS OUT IN THE MORNING.
B-B-BUT ...A-ALL RIGHT...
PLEASE EXCUSE ME...
TAKE THOSE AIR CHARMS TO BE RE-CHARGED. OKAY, KIDDO?
YOU THREE ARE WELCOME TO REST HERE FOR THE NIGHT. ACTUALLY, LIKE I SAID...
"...YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE CAUGHT OUTSIDE AT NIGHT."


SHORTLY...
...THERE'S EVEN A HUGE CITY DOWN HERE, THOUGH WE HAVEN'T ACTUALLY SEEN IT YET. IT'S BEEN ONE SURPRISE AFTER ANOTHER TODAY!
AT LEAST--"CORAL," WAS IT?--AND THE OTHERS SOUNDED NICE. I ENVY YOU GETTING TO MEET A WHOLE NEW CULTURE FIRST!
THE TALK OF MONSTERS AT NIGHT, EVEN THERE, HAS ME WORRIED, THOUGH. ANY PROGRESS ON FINDING THE GAIA TEMPLE?
MAYBE? NOBODY SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT A GAIA TEMPLE IS, SO ROTOR'S GOING TO RUN TESTS ON THE STRUCTURE HERE IN THE MORNING. OH! ANOTHER WEIRD THING--CORAL SAID SOME SPIRITS TOLD HER WE WERE COMING.
I...I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF IT.
HMM...WELL, PLAY IT BY EAR. I KNOW YOU GUYS CAN HANDLE IT.
BY THE WAY... HOW'S SONIC?
HE FREAKED A LITTLE ABOUT GOING UNDERWATER, BUT OTHERWISE HE SEEMS LIKE HIMSELF. I DUNNO, SALLY--HE'S REALLY HARD TO READ SOMETIMES.
TELL ME ABOUT IT. STILL--THAT EXPOSURE TO THE DARK ENERGY HAS ME CONCERNED, EVEN IF *HE* DOESN'T SEEM TO CARE ABOUT IT. KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.
HAHA! NOT A PROBLEM!
WE'RE GOING TO STOP THE SKY PATROL SOON AND PROCEED THE REST OF THE WAY STEALTHILY. I DON'T WANT EGGMAN TO KNOW WE'RE CLOSING IN ON AN EMERALD. REST UP--AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES OUT THERE.
blip
YOU, TOO. G'NITE, SALLY, AND GOOD LUCK ON YOUR MISSION.


ZZz
HEY, THERE. CAN'T SLEEP?
SIGH NO. I WAS ONLY A PRIESTESS IN TRAINING WHEN AQUARIUS CAME OUT OF HER LAST COCOON.
I'VE NEVER OVERSEEN A REINCARNATION MYSELF.
I CAN'T MESS THIS UP. I...I JUST CAN'T.
YOU LOOKED PRETTY PROFESSIONAL TO ME, AND I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT CHAO-RAISING. MAKES ME WISH WE'D BROUGHT CREAM ALONG...
WHAT GOOD WOULD CREAM DO US?
NO, NOT LIKE THAT. CREAM'S A FRIEND OF MINE--SHE LOVES CHAO; YOU TWO WOULD GET ALONG GREAT. ACTUALLY, SPEAKING OF OUR FRIENDS, WE COULD HAVE USED TAILS TO FLY THROUGH THE HOLES IN THE CEILING HERE INSTEAD OF SWIMMING.
YOU...FLY... WITH YOUR TAILS?
NEVER MIND. MAYBE I CAN INTRODUCE YOU ALL LATER.

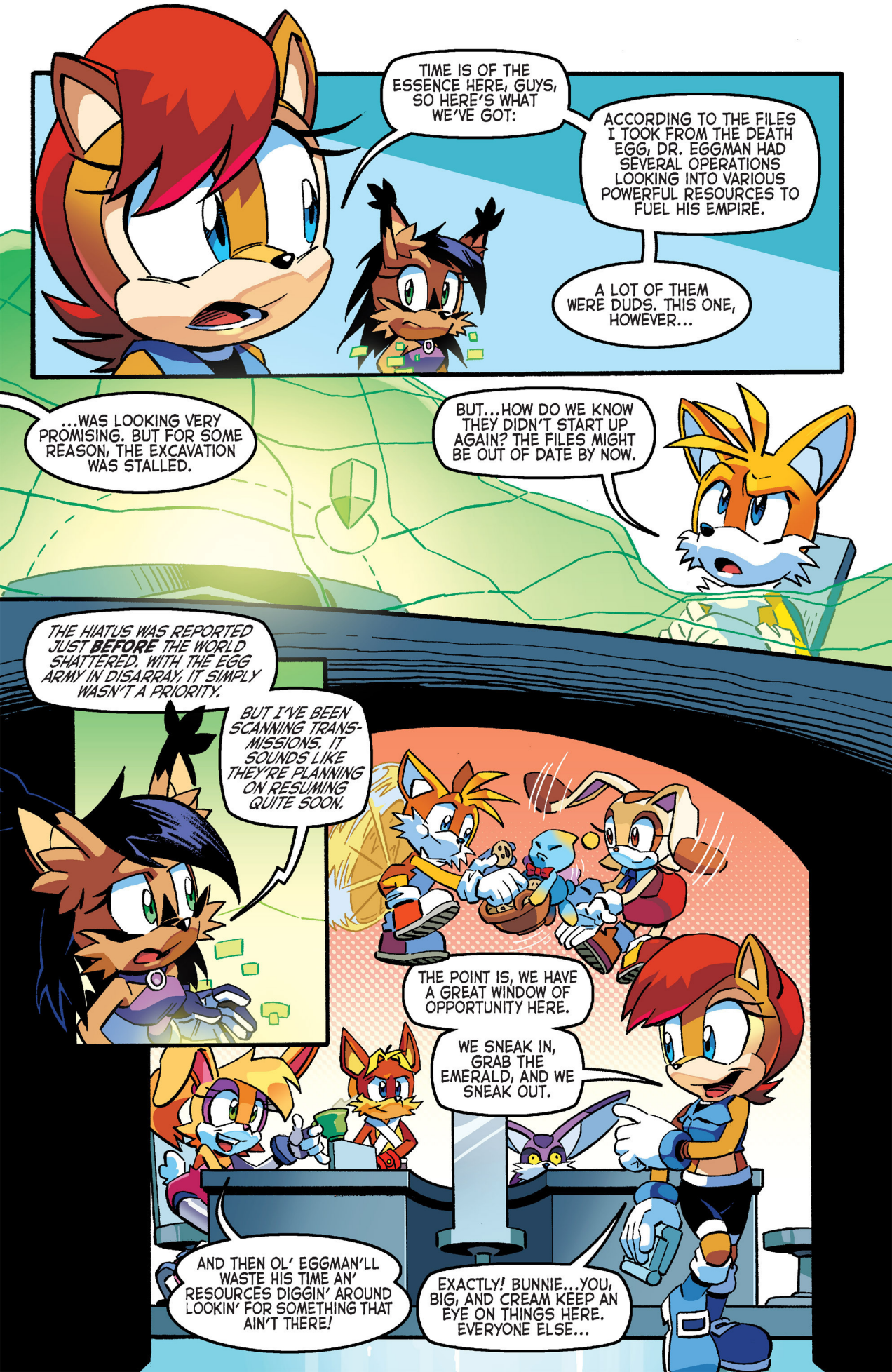

THAT WAS A LOVELY SONG YOU PLAYED DURING THE CEREMONY. WAS THAT A MAGIC FLUTE OR SOMETHING?
OH! ...THANK YOU!
THE MYSTIC MELODY IS A TECHNIQUE HANDED DOWN FROM ONE PRIESTESS TO THE NEXT. IT SEEMS LIKE THE ONLY THING I'M STILL DOING RIGHT LATELY...
IS IT JUST FOR THE CHAO, OR DO YOU USE IT IN ALL OF YOUR DUTIES?
OH, IT'S INTEGRAL TO IT ALL.
IT HELPS ACTIVATE MAGIC RINGS TO POWER THE CITY, SUSTAINS THE WATERY SHIELD THAT PROTECTS EVERYONE FROM HARM, AND IT'S SAID TO LET YOU COMMUNE WITH THE ANCIENT SPIRITS...
...EXCEPT IT SEEMS THAT'S NOT TRUE, AND I'M JUST CRAZY.
IT DOESN'T SOUND CRAZY TO ME. BELIEVE ME--I'VE SEEN SOME WEIRD STUFF. THINGS YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE.
LIKE WHAT?
OH, LIKE...
...WANNABE MACHINE GODS? GIANT MECHA-SALAMANDERS GLUED TO SPACE STATIONS? PRINCESSES FROM OTHER DIMENSIONS WHO CONTROL FIRE?*
...YOU'RE MAKING THIS UP TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.
HAHA! I TOLD YOU!
*FROM YOUR FAVORITE SONIC GAMES!
TRUE OR NOT, I DOUBT I COULD FACE ANYTHING HALF SO ADVENTUROUS.
POOR GIRL...SHE REMINDS ME A LOT OF HOW I USED TO BE. ALWAYS RELYING ON SONIC TO SAVE ME... I'M SURE SHE'S A LOT STRONGER THAN SHE THINKS.


THE NEXT MORNING...
WELL--IT'S DEFINITELY BIGGER ON THE INSIDE, BUT I DON'T SEE ANYTHING THAT REALLY SCREAMS, "STICK CHAOS EMERALD HERE." WHAT'D YOU FIND?
MM...LOOKS LIKE THE STONE IS OLD ENOUGH TO BE A GAIA TEMPLE, BUT THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY PROVE THAT IT IS.
CORAL SAID THAT THIS TEMPLE WASN'T BUILT BY THEIR PEOPLE ...I'M GUESSING IT WAS ORIGINALLY ON THE SURFACE, BUT FELL DOWN HERE A LONG TIME AGO.
SO...WE'VE REACHED A DEFINITIVE "MAYBE."
PRETTY MUCH.
...WAIT, YOU'RE SAYING HER CHAO ARE MADE OF CHEESE AND CHOCOLATE?
NO! THEIR NAMES ARE "CHEESE" AND "CHOCOLA"! I MEAN, YOU CALLED YOURS "CRUSHER," OF ALL THINGS.
IT MAKES HIM FEEL IMPORTANT.
DON'T BE SHY, PEARLY. YOU OUGHT TO KNOW THESE CHAO BETTER THAN ME.
NUH-UH. CHAO ARE CREEPY!
BUT...THEY'RE LIKE LITTLE WATER-BABIES. HOW ARE THEY CREEPY?
SERIOUSLY. YOUR HEAD'S COVERED WITH SPINES. SHE OUGHT TO BE SCARED OF YOU!
AHHHHH!


AHHH HHHH! NO!
WHOA! TAKE IT EASY! BREATHE! TELL ME WHAT'S--
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?!
HEY! GET OFF HIM!
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING! I WAS TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS WRONG!
I-IT'S AQUARIUS! SHE...SHE HASN'T HATCHED! SHE-SHE-SHE SHOULD HAVE REINCARNATED BY NOW!
UM ...SONIC? RAZOR? I COULD USE YOU GUYS OUT HERE...

...WE'VE GOT COMPANY!
WHO ARE YOU? AND HOW *DARE* YOU TRESPASS ON SACRED GROUND ?!
SONIC, ROTOR, AND AMY... STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND!
MONSTERS SWARMING EVERY NIGHT!
AND NEXT TIME, THE THREATS GROW DEEPER!
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER DIGEST, AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

The LIGHT in The DARK
PART ONE
RISE AND SHINE, FREEDOM FIGHTERS! WE'VE GOT A CHAOS EMERALD TO FIND.
Y'ALL TRACKED ONE DOWN ALREADY? I HOPE YOU GOT SOME SLEEP LAST NIGHT, SALLY-GIRL.
STILL, NICELY DONE. IT SEEMS THERE IS OFTEN LITTLE RHYMING OF REASON WHERE ZE EMERALDS END UP.
I USED TO HAVE ONE OF THOSE!
EXACTEMENT MY POINT...
Script: ALEAH BAKER
Pencils: EVAN STANLEY
Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN


TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE HERE, GUYS, SO HERE'S WHAT WE'VE GOT:
ACCORDING TO THE FILES I TOOK FROM THE DEATH EGG, DR. EGGMAN HAD SEVERAL OPERATIONS LOOKING INTO VARIOUS POWERFUL RESOURCES TO FUEL HIS EMPIRE.
A LOT OF THEM WERE DUDS. THIS ONE, HOWEVER...
...WAS LOOKING VERY PROMISING. BUT FOR SOME REASON, THE EXCAVATION WAS STALLED.
BUT...HOW DO WE KNOW THEY DIDN'T START UP AGAIN? THE FILES MIGHT BE OUT OF DATE BY NOW.
THE HIATUS WAS REPORTED JUST **BEFORE** THE WORLD SHATTERED. WITH THE EGG ARMY IN DISARRAY, IT SIMPLY WASN'T A PRIORITY.
BUT I'VE BEEN SCANNING TRANSMISSIONS. IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE PLANNING ON RESUMING QUITE SOON.
THE POINT IS, WE HAVE A GREAT WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY HERE.
WE SNEAK IN, GRAB THE EMERALD, AND WE SNEAK OUT.
AND THEN OL' EGGMAN'LL WASTE HIS TIME AN' RESOURCES DIGGIN' AROUND LOOKIN' FOR SOMETHING THAT AIN'T THERE!
EXACTLY! BUNNIE...YOU, BIG, AND CREAM KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS HERE. EVERYONE ELSE...

"LET'S DO IT TO IT!"
I AM NOT SEEING MUCH IN ZE WAY OF SECURITY...
WELL, THIS *IS* PRETTY MUCH IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. INSIDE IS PROBABLY A DIFFERENT STORY, THOUGH.
AND THAT'S WHY WE'RE LUCKY TO HAVE NICOLE HERE.
THAT YOU ARE.
HMMM.
"HMMM"?
I'M ABLE TO CIRCUMVENT THIS SYSTEM'S SECURITY FEATURES. ALL ROBOTS SHOULD BE SHUT DOWN AND OUTGOING VIDEO FEEDS AND TRANSMISSIONS ARE NOW MASKED.
BUT THE SYSTEM'S DEFENSES ARE MORE CAPABLE THAN ANTICIPATED. AT THEIR CURRENT RATE, THEY WILL OVERCOME MY ALTERATIONS IN SEVENTY-TWO MINUTES, DISCOUNTING FLUCTUATIONS.
THAT ONLY LEAVES US AN HOUR...
WE *NEED* THAT EMERALD. I THINK IT'S WORTH A SHOT.
AGREED. I'LL MONITOR OUR TIME. THE LIGHTS HAVE BEEN TURNED ON. DISENGAGING THE DOOR'S LOCKS NOW.
KCHUNK!

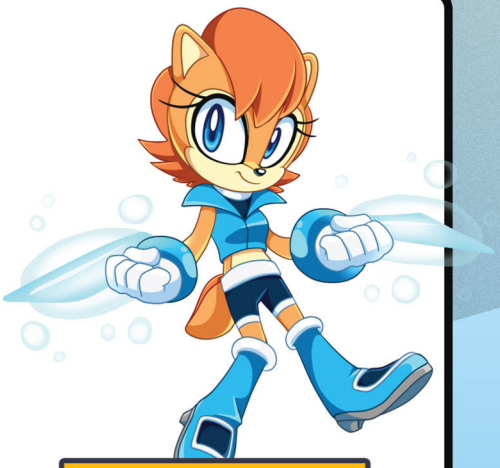
AH...ZE SUPPORTS LOOK STURDY, NON? WITH ALL THE EARTH-SHAKES...
EARTH-QUAKES, 'TWAN.
ZE POINT IS, IF ZE TUNNEL WERE LIKELY TO BE COLLAPSING, IT WOULD HAVE ALREADY HAPPENED, YES?
I...GUESS? GIVEN ALL THE RECENT ACTIVITY, WE'RE PROBABLY LUCKY IT'S STILL STANDING AT ALL.
HMPH. WHAT IF THAT IS THE REASON ZE EGG ARMY STOPPED ZE DIG? A COLLAPSE? OR PERHAPS THEY HIT SOME KIND OF POCKET OF DEADLY GAS, OR--
NO SUCH PROBLEMS WERE MENTIONED IN THE SYSTEM LOGS. A CALL HAD BEEN PUT IN FOR ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT OF SOME KIND--
...GAS MASKS?
ALL THIS TALK IS REMINDING ME OF THE STUFF SEEPING OUT OF THE GROUND NEAR KNOTHOLE.*
...SALLY? DO YOU THINK SONIC IS REALLY--
OH.
*STH #254.

I ASSUME THIS IS WHERE THE DIGGING STOPPED.
YES. THE LOGS HERE INDICATE AN ABRUPT CHANGE IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE TERRAIN, BUT ANTOINE WILL BE PLEASED TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF ANYTHING DANGEROUS IN THE AIR. FURTHERMORE, I'M DETECTING FAINT READINGS OF CHAOS ENERGY.
SO THE EMERALD'S CLOSE? THAT'S GREAT!
WELL, I SUPPOSE WE HAVE COME THIS FAR...
NICOLE, OPEN THE DOOR.
KCHUNK!
ALL RIGHT, GUYS, BE READY FOR...
MON DIEU...
...ANYTHING...
THEY CAME LOOKING FOR A CHAOS EMERALD, BUT WHAT OTHER SURPRISES DOES THE MYSTERIOUS CAVERN HOLD? WHAT SHOCKING SECRETS AWAIT THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN THE DARK? AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEIR PLANS GO AWRY...?
FIND OUT NEXT TIME IN...
The LIGHT in The DARK
PART TWO

SONIC-GRAMS FAN ART

Stephanie G. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Jacquelyn D. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com



Charlotte B. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Caoimhin M. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

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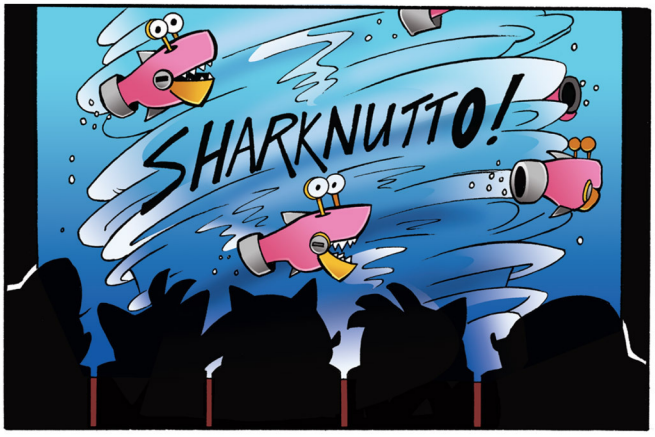
SCRIPT: JONATHAN GRAY PENCILS: JENNIFER HERNANDEZ
INKS: RICK BRYANT COLORS: ALEAH BAKER



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SONIC-GRAMS

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Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Let's cut the jibba jabba and get on with the usual!

Aww I like the jibba and the jabba! Go ahead...

First of all, I'm so excited about the new badnik E-106 Eta. He's soooo cool!!! I like him mostly because of his design, and he has those spike hand things instead of a gun like the rest of the E-100 series.

Eta is beta than eva! Glad you're digging his design! Eta's role in the new universe has only been glimpsed at, so stick with us to see more on the butt-kicking badnik!

Since the world has been altered and new characters are being added to the series like Prof. Pickle and Black Death, could you add Honey the Cat? I've seen a lot of people requesting her and I'd like her added into the comics as well.

Hmmm...a taste of honey might just be what the doctor ordered...

I liked the cover Tyson Hesse did for issue 258 and was wondering, will he ever be drawing full stories for the comics?

Maaaaayyyyybbeeeee :)

Final question. The new world has probably opened a lot of new doors for the story. I was hoping you could do a Sonic 2006 story.

Thanks!

Joey E. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the letter, Joey! We certainly have a lot of new ideas that we want to include in the comic as well as incorporate elements from the games, like with our current story and the game Sonic Unleashed. Keep an eye out and you might catch a thing or two from Sonic 06 in the future!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Man you guys, I am so PSYCHED for the Werehog. I saw that first tease after Sonic breathed in the gas and I was jumping in excitement. I'm not alone, boy the fans can not wait. Please keep up the good work,

Jackie J. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for writing in, Jackie! The beast has yet to be unleashed! One thing's for sure, the situation is about to get a lot hairier!

See y'all next month for "Waves of Change," part two of four!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #260

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